of the question to make the training qualification a condition precedent to recruitment.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Ezhuvas-Trichur*): Trained teachers should be given preference, and the Government are not adhering to that principle.

Mr. President: Government have not prescribed training as a minimum qualification for recruitment by the Staff Selection Board. Am I to understand that it is the desire of the House that this should be prescribed as a minimum qualification?

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): The Hon'ble President was pleased to say that the training will adversely affect unrepresented communities.

Mr. President: Because, other things being equal, they have to choose an untrained hand to satisfy the communal representation. If it is the desire of the House to insist upon the training as a minimum qualification for recruitment of teachers by the Staff Selection Board, Government will very seriously consider the question. I have made the position of the Government clear. I hope that the House will take an opportunity to table a resolution. If a resolution is tabled and the House records its unanimous verdict that the training should be a preferential consideration, Government will seriously consider the question.

HINDI—TEACHING OF.

119. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the number of schools in the State where provision has been made for teaching Hindi or Hindustani;

(*b*) the number of students who are receiving instructions in Hindi in such schools;

(*c*) when was the teaching of Hindi first introduced in the State as subject of study in schools?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*):

(*a*) 23.
(*b*) 1,657.
(*c*) 1105.

LEAVE RULES—APPLICATION OF.

120. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state :—

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